

Trendlines

November/December 2006

Perspectives On Utah's Economy

American Community Survey

Snapshots of Utah — Demographics Issue

A Pretty Great State

Many are making Utah home

Utah's Perpetual Baby Boom

The nation's highest birthrate

POP Goes the U.S. Housing Market

Did too much money enter the market?

Utah's Largest Cities

Which seven are they?



Trendlines

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To obtain additional printed copies or to subscribe to *Trendlines* contact:

Department of Workforce Services
Attn: Workforce Information
140 East 300 South
Salt Lake City, UT 84111

Telephone: (801) 526-9786

Fax: (801) 526-9238

Email: wipublications@utah.gov

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Trendlines

Utah Department of Workforce Services

Executive Director

Tani Pack Downing

Workforce Development and Information

Stephen Maas, Director

Stacey Floyd, Assistant Director

Contributors

Mark Knold

Carrie Mayne

Michael Hanni

Austin Sargent

Lisa Nicholson

John Mathews

Jim Robson

Lecia Langston

Doug Clark

Coordination

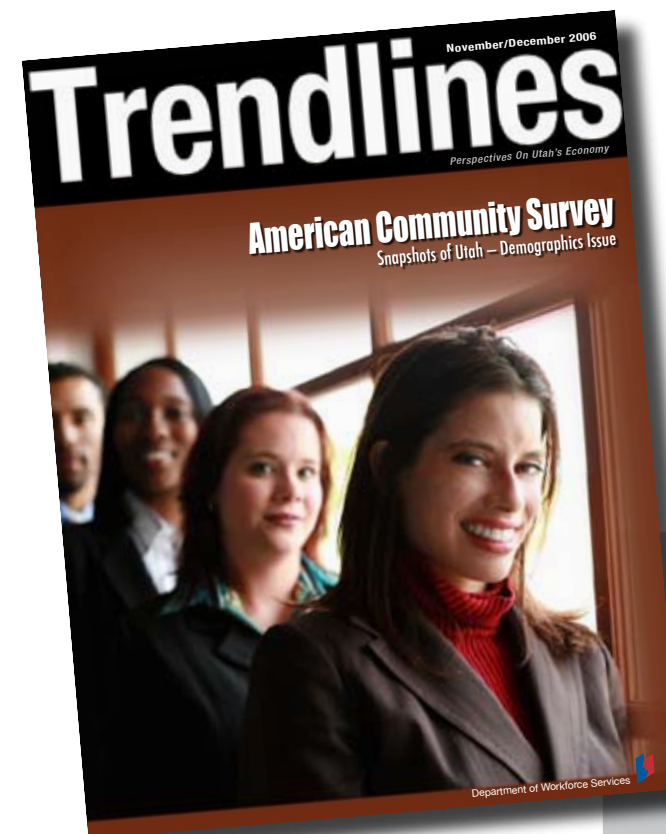
Kim Bartel

Connie Blaine

Designer

Pat Swenson

jobs.utah.gov



American Community Survey Issue

November/December 2006

The American Community Survey (ACS) collects information from a random sample of households in all communities around the country. The survey is now conducted annually, providing more accurate demographics. Most of this issue is dedicated to survey findings.

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Building Boom

Spurs Employment

Residential construction, retail establishments contribute

We have all heard about the housing boom. The growing housing industry has been one of the primary drivers of economic expansion since 2003. This building boom also spurred employment in other industries tied to the residential real estate market. Jobs in financing, home sales, and furnishings benefited from the expansion in residential construction.

To show housing's contribution to Utah's economic growth a modified definition of housing-related industries from Economy.com is used. The industries contributing the most employment by percentages are residential construction and special trade contractors (over 60 percent), followed by retail establishments that supply building materials and home furnishings (over 17 percent). Mortgage financing, real estate services, and other professional and home services round out the list of industries.

Utah employment benefited from a strong rise in residential construction activity. Statewide, housing-related industry employment saw its share of employment rise from 8.8 percent in 2001 to nearly 10 percent in 2005. Month-over total employment gains went from slightly negative at the end of the recession in 2003 to a robust 5 percent in March of 2006. While the overall job market has been strong, housing-related employment expanded earlier and currently stands at a stellar 13.6 percent. Housing-related economic activity added nearly 1 percent to the state's 5 percent total employment growth rate.

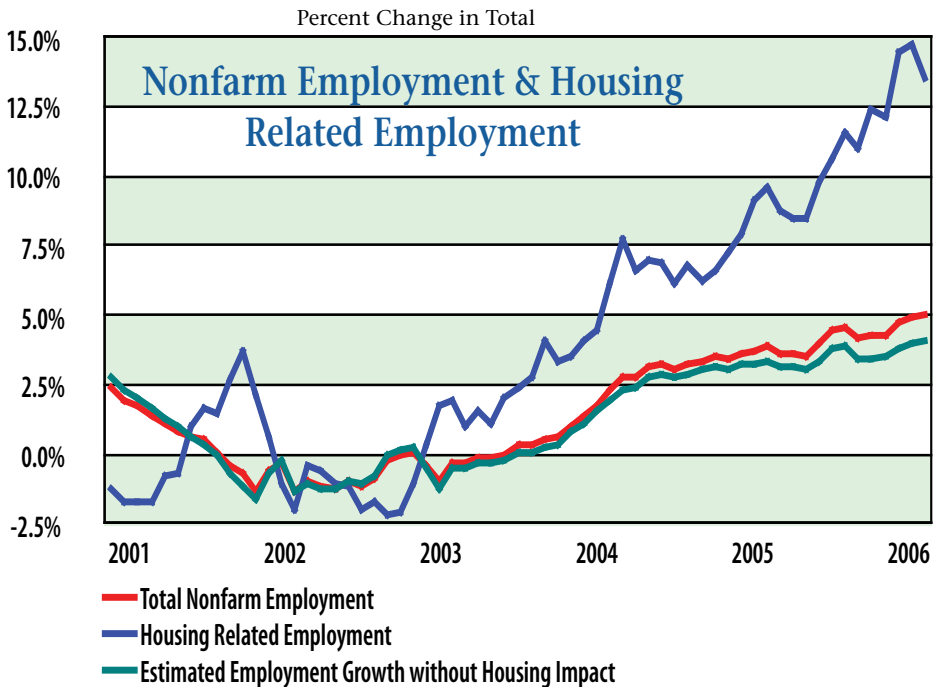
Housing was stimulated by low interest rates. As the U.S. economy recovered from the recession, demand expanded for goods and services. Expanding business activity increased employment opportunities. Jobs attracted workers who needed housing.

Currently, the rise in mortgage interest rates has slowed the demand for housing. Eventually, this will impact Utah's housing market. However, its slowdown will not be dramatic. Utah's expansion and price increases have been more in line with local demand. Still, Utah enjoys relatively affordable housing rates, which bodes well for the future of its housing-related industries. The state will see slower, but good economic growth, and its exposure to a severe downturn seems minute. Utah's growing population and job market will help sustain demand for housing and housing-related employment. ❶

For more information go to:

- <http://jobs.utah.gov/jsp/wi/utalmis/gotoIndustry.do>
- <http://jobs.utah.gov/jsp/wi/utalmis/gotoCounties.do>
- <http://jobs.utah.gov/opencms/wi/statewide/ifsheets/construction.pdf>
- <http://www-new.business.utah.edu/bebr/bebr.php>

- The completion of a \$100-million expansion of Cephalon Inc. facilities west of Salt Lake City (SLC) International Airport accommodates 500 workers and features manufacturing capabilities and the largest controlled-substances vault west of the Mississippi River. <http://deseretnews.com/dn/view/0,1249,645197195,00.html>
- NASA announced Lockheed Martin Corp. will build Orion, the space capsule that will return Americans to the moon. ATK Launch Systems Group of Brigham City will construct part of it. ATK will build Orion's Launch Abort System, including a solid-fuel rocket. The overall Lockheed contract is for seven years. The dollar amount is \$3.9 billion. <http://deseretnews.com/dn/view/0,1249,645197871,00.html>
- Hunter Douglas will invest \$17 million to build a 240,000-square-foot facility in Salt Lake City, doubling employment in the area to 500. The company manufactures wood and metal blinds, shutters and shades. http://www.sltrib.com/business/ci_4270561
- Utah's home-price appreciation, the worst in the country three years ago, is now the 10th best. Home prices statewide rose 15.2 percent in the year that ended in June. Nationally, home prices rose only 10.1 percent in the year that ended in June, reflecting a downturn seen in markets throughout the country that experienced a rapid run-up in prices in the past several years. http://www.sltrib.com/business/ci_4292878



Source: Utah Department of Workforce Services.

Industry Sectors Related to Housing

- Residential Building
- Special Trade Contractors
- *Water and Sewer System Const.*
- *Land Subdivision*
- Wholesale Lumber and Construction Supply
- Building Material & Garden Supply Stores
- *Furniture and Home Furnishing Stores*
- Mortgage and Non-mortgage Loan Brokers
- Real Estate Credit
- Office of Real Estate Agents and Brokers
- Office of Real Estate Appraisers
- *Landscape Architectural Services*
- Services to Buildings and Dwellings

Source: Economy.com and the Department of Workforce Services (DWS).
Note: The industries in italics were added to the definition by DWS economists.

Utah's Largest Cities

American Community Survey Facts

Utah's seven
largest cities:

- Salt Lake City
- West Valley City
 - Provo
- West Jordan
 - Orem
 - Sandy
 - Ogden

For the first time since the 2000 Census, detailed demographic, social and economic data is available for some cities in Utah—those with populations greater than 65,000. Utah's seven largest cities are: Salt Lake City, West Valley City, Provo, West Jordan, Orem, Sandy, and Ogden. Each of these cities has a new data profile of characteristics for 2005 from the American Community Survey (ACS).

Following are examples of the 2005 information available for these seven cities:

- The average travel time to get to work was lowest in Provo—15 minutes, and highest in West Jordan—23.9 minutes. The state average was 20.5 minutes.
- The percentage of workers traveling to work alone in a vehicle was lowest in Provo—69.6 percent, and highest in Sandy—79.7 percent. The state average was 76.5 percent.
- The percent of workers who worked outside the county in which they resided was lowest in West Jordan—5.6 percent, and highest in Ogden—28.4 percent. The state average was 18 percent.
- The largest household size was in West Jordan—3.65 persons, and smallest average household size in Salt Lake City—2.43 persons. The state average household size was 3.07 persons.

- The percent of residents 25 years and older that have completed high school was highest in Provo at 93.8 percent, and lowest in Ogden at 80.1 percent. The state average was 90.1 percent.
- The percent of residents 25 years and older that have completed a bachelor's degree was highest in Provo—40.4 percent, and lowest in West Valley City—10.2 percent. The state average was 27.9 percent.
- The percent of people below the poverty level was lowest in West Jordan—4.3 percent, and highest in Provo—28.3 percent. The state average was 10.2 percent.
- The percent of married-couple families with both husband and wife in the labor force was highest in West Jordan—65 percent, and lowest in Provo—44.4 percent. The state average was 52.6 percent.
- The city with the largest minority population was West Valley City—37.6 percent, and the smallest minority population was Sandy—10.4 percent. The state average was 16.4 percent.
- The percentage of residents over the age of one year who lived in a different house one year ago was highest in Provo—32.3 percent, and lowest in Sandy—12.8 percent. The state average was 19.4 percent. ⓘ

✓ The percent of married-couple families with both husband and wife in the labor force was highest in West Jordan—65 percent, and lowest in Provo—44.4 percent.

✓ The percentage of workers traveling to work alone in a vehicle was lowest in Provo—69.6 percent, and highest in Sandy—79.7 percent.

✓ The percent of workers who worked outside the county in which they resided was lowest in West Jordan—5.6 percent, and highest in Ogden—28.4 percent.

Cache County: Unique in Many Ways

The American Community Survey (ACS) has released its 2005 results, and for the first time Cache County was included. The release gives a mid-decade look at much demographic, social, and economic information about the people in the county. This edition of Trendlines' Outskirts section highlights the uniqueness of Cache County compared with Utah and the nation.

Demo-ing the Demographics
Demographics have to do with information about age, race, households, and other characteristics. When focusing on the age makeup of the 94,700 people that live in Cache County, it becomes quite clear that it's not similar to the nation, or even Utah, for that matter. The percent of total population accounted for by the 0-5 age group is disproportionately large...lots of very young kids live in Cache County relative to Utah and the U.S. In the county, 11 percent are less than six years old.

That's nearly twice the 7 percent comparison at the national level. And, if you were to compare the number for the oldest cohort of the population, those 65 years and older, the percentages just about reverse themselves. That is, only 7 percent of the total in the county fall into this older group compared to the U.S., which has 12 percent of all its folks in the 65-plus age group.

These differences also show up when the median age of the population for each of the areas is calculated. In Utah, the median age is 28.5 years; for the U.S. the median is 36.4 years; but for Cache County that number is a youthful 25.5 years.


Another interesting factoid is the lower-than-average proportion of Hispanics or Latinos in the county. In 2005 the ACS estimate pegged this share at 8.2. This is low compared to the 11 percent for the state and 15 percent for the nation.

Social Characteristics
Of note in the vast array of ACS data is the educational attainment of those 25 years old or older. Cache County, because of Utah State University, claims a higher percent of educated population than either the state or the nation. For the county, 35 percent of the population (25 years old and older) has a bachelor's degree or higher. Compare that with the corresponding figures of 28 percent for Utah and 27 percent for the U.S. and USU's presence is clearly apparent. Ancestry of the population shows very strong ties to Scandinavia (16 percent) and Germany (15 percent).

Working Statistics
Turn the page to the economic chapter of the ACS for Cache County and some interesting tidbits

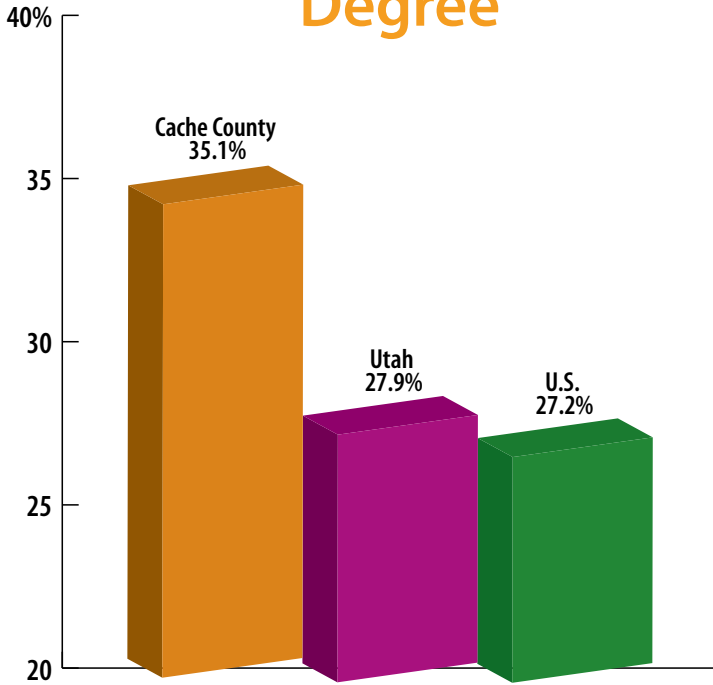
surface. Nearly 19 percent of the respondents indicated they worked in manufacturing, which was about 10 percent higher than both the state and the nation. Because of the University and healthcare facilities the percent of total employment made up of persons in healthcare and education was about 29 percent compared with 20 percent at the state or national level.

Cache County was behind the state and the nation for key income indicators. Median family income at \$46,300 was well below the \$54,600 for Utah and \$55,800 for the nation. The per capita income shows the dramatic impact of the very young population in the county. Per capita income from the ACS was \$17,800 compared to \$20,800 for Utah, and \$25,000 for the nation.

As it matures, the American Community Survey will be a good source of information about us in the future. 

For more information about the ACS visit the internet site: <http://www.census.gov/acs/www/>

Percent of Population (25 years and over) with a
Bachelor's or Higher Degree



Source: Utah Department of Workforce Services

Did you know?

- West Liberty Foods has formally announced that their plant will come to Tremonton. The company purchased 28 acres for the facility. The new plant is expected to employ about 200 and may eventually hire up to 500.

Standard Examiner

- Between January and May of this year there have been 462 homes sold in Cache Valley, 11 percent more than the 418 over the same span from 2005 and 29 percent more than the 327 in 2004.

Herald Journal

- The Bear River Association of Governments has been planning for years to create an economic development district. Now it has the money.

Standard Examiner



Goes the Market

U.S. Housing

All around the United States, too much money entered the housing market; that's the way the investors worked—pop goes the housing market.

It's done. It's over. The housing euphoria that gripped the nation over the past four years is finally exhausted. Rational analysts who have followed this economic phenomenon warned of its coming. The difficult part was predicting the timing of the fall. Based upon the rapidly growing inventory of unsold homes, rapidly deteriorating housing affordability, and fading home-builder confidence, the signs are strong that the time is now.

What concerns this analyst is the housing market's parallel with the stock market bubble of the late 1990s. That bubble was also warned about, but what made it worse was its continued growth at least two years beyond the onset of the initial cries for moderation. That's the parallel I see with the current housing situation and the previous dot.com bust. We knew the housing market was acting outside its historical norm, in many cases driven by aggressive investors looking for an alternative to a non-performing stock market. They pushed market prices well beyond what income levels suggest they should be. Economists know that double-digit year-after-year housing price appreciation is just not compatible with income gains that lag far behind. After all, you have to be able to afford your monthly mortgage payments!

An affordability index is a combination of the price of homes and the available mortgage interest rates. Together they heavily influence the affordability of a house in relation to the buyer's income. Over the past five years, a major contributor to rapidly rising housing prices has

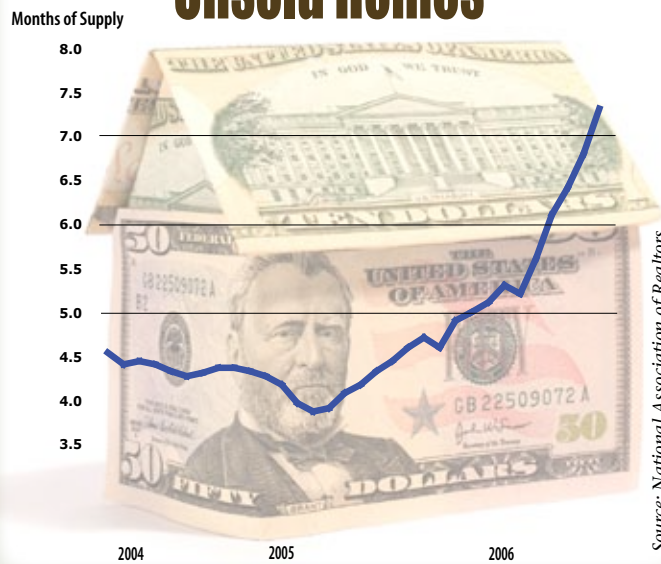
not only been rapidly falling mortgage interest rates, but also speculative (or portfolio) buying. In many markets, it was far-distant buyers who were determining the local price of homes, not the local people and their income levels (note St. George here in Utah). To keep local people buying, financial markets became more creative (but not always disciplined) in their financing schemes. Adjustable-rate and interest-only mortgages were pushed heavily. This financing is designed to get marginal buyers into the housing market, unfortunately with only a short-term view in mind. With rates now higher and these adjustments coming due in waves over the next two years, many of these people will discover that they no longer can afford their monthly housing payments.

The investors are backing out of the housing market—at least on the coasts, where the bulk of this overinvestment occurred. It's possible that it could shift inland to the markets that didn't get sucked up in this wave. But with interest rates rising, any housing-price increase in these lagging markets will probably be much more tempered than the doubling of prices that occurred in many of the large coastal markets. Any positives from a shift inward may not be enough to counter the anticipated negatives expected in the coastal regions.

Most of Utah dodged this wild housing price increase—except for St. George. Prices have risen rapidly along the Wasatch Front over the past year and a half, but the market will probably temper enough to keep that region out of trouble. St. George, on the other hand, is a market where the housing prices are not in line with the area's wage levels. It will be interesting to observe how this imbalance plays out over the next two years.

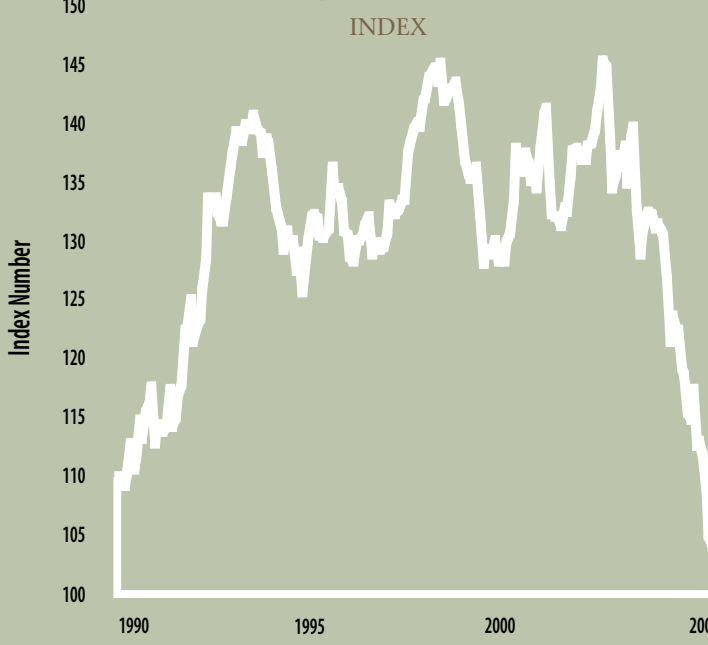
Nationwide Inventory of

Unsold Homes



Source: National Association of Realtors

Housing Affordability



Source: National Association of Realtors

REGISTERED NURSES



Have you heard about the nursing shortage? According to the U.S. Department of Labor, more new registered nurse (RN) positions will be created from 2002-2012 than in any other occupation. In Utah, there are a projected 1,150 job openings for RNs annually. Growth in healthcare, an aging population, and the need to replace nurses leaving the profession will fuel demand for many years to come. If you enjoy working with people, gaining medical knowledge, and have good communication and decision-making skills, a career as a registered nurse could be right for you.

RNs work in a variety of settings. Although about two-thirds of RNs work in hospitals, they can also be found in physicians' offices, clinics, surgical centers, long-term care facilities, schools, government agencies, and other places. While their exact duties vary according

to the setting, RNs are called on to do medical assessment, provide ordered treatments, give medications, and provide support to patients and their families. RNs provide compassionate care with an understanding of the science behind the medical issues they are treating.

The work can be stressful and challenging, and the ability to remain calm and work well with others is critical. RNs must also be well organized, observant and consistently able to provide safe, competent care. One of the RN's most important roles is that of a teacher—both for patients learning to manage illness and those trying to prevent illness.

This occupation also offers a variety of schedules. Many nursing jobs are shift work, from around-the-clock in a hospital to 9-5 in a clinic. According

to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, about one-quarter of registered nurses actually work part-time.


In order to become a registered nurse, you must graduate from an accredited nursing program and pass a state licensing exam. In Utah, you can train to be an RN by earning an associate or bachelor's degree. Bachelor of Science Nursing (BSN) programs take about four years to complete, and are offered by colleges and universities.

Associate degree programs are offered by community colleges, and usually

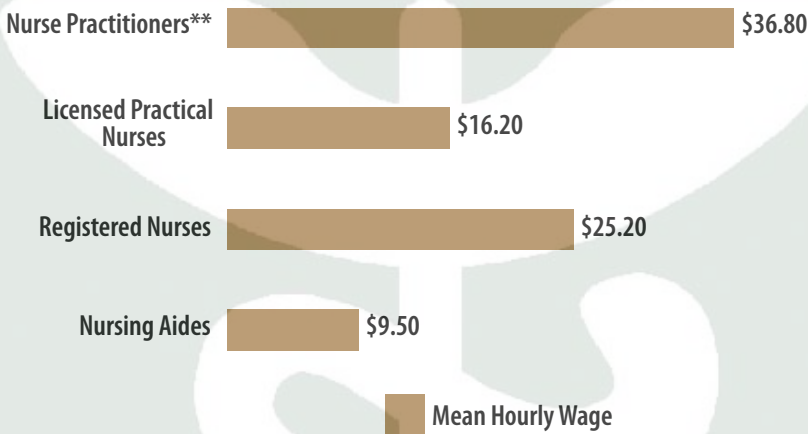
take about two to three years to complete. RN-BS programs allow RNs with an associate degree to earn a bachelor's degree, preparing them for a broader scope of practice and further advancement in the field. A bachelor's degree is usually necessary to engage in research or enroll in master's degree programs.

While job opportunities for RNs in all specialties are expected to be excellent, the number of RN jobs in nursing care facilities is expected to grow fastest because of increases in the number of elderly, many of whom require long-

term care. Job growth also is expected in units that provide specialized long-term rehabilitation for stroke and head injury patients, as well as units that treat Alzheimer's victims.

Jobs for RNs are not only plentiful, but also pay well. According to the Utah Department of Workforce Services, registered nurses earn an average of \$25.20 per hour statewide and \$26.10 in the Salt Lake City area. Because of the high number of job openings and high wages, the Utah Department of Workforce Services lists nursing as a 5-star occupation. 

Nursing occupations and wages



**2005 National Salary Survey of Nurse Practitioners
Source: Utah Dept. of Workforce Services

Are you interested in a career as a registered nurse? Check out our web site at www.careers.utah.gov for more information.



The Second Time Around...Grandparents as Caregivers

home and be coresident with their grandchildren, etc.

Interestingly, for the counties with available 2005 data, Davis shows the highest percentage of coresident grandparents and grandchildren, at 4.5 percent. The other Wasatch Front counties—Salt Lake, Weber, and Utah—all show percentages at or slightly higher than the state average of 3.8 percent. On the other hand, Washington County shows only 2.8 percent of its over-30 population living in the same home as their grandchildren. This may reflect the fact that many of the county’s grandparents have retired from other areas, often far away from their grandchildren.

Going it Alone

Of course, not all these grandparents are raising their grandchildren on their own—many provide homes for their children along with their grandchildren or are living in their children’s homes. Yet, about 44 percent of grandparents with coresident grandchildren had sole responsibility for the care of those children. Again, Utah ranks slightly higher than the U.S. average of 43 percent.

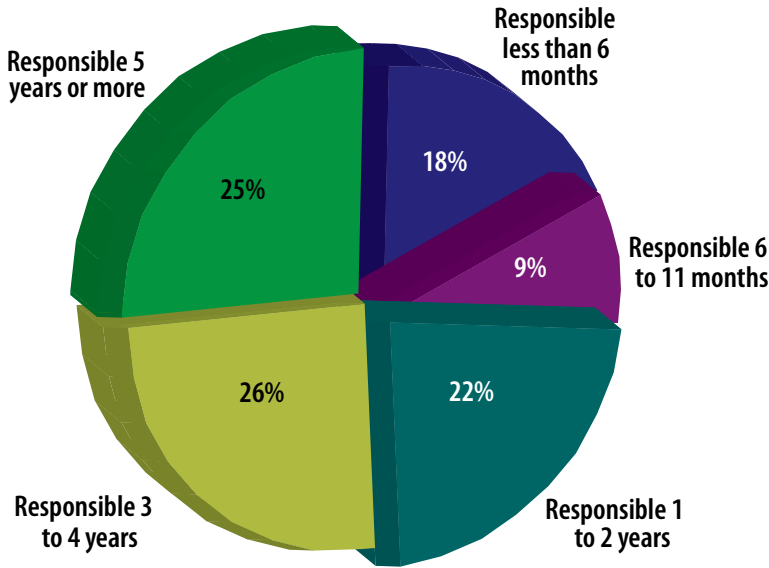
Not surprisingly, younger grandparents are more likely to be responsible for their grandchildren. Of the 19,000-plus grandparents responsible for caregiving in 2005, roughly two-thirds were under age of 60. This leaves a substantial one-third of caregivers in the older age group.

For the Long Haul

For many grandparents, caregiving is a long-term commitment. One-fourth of caregiving grandparents had already been taking care of their grandchildren for five or more years. Here Utah grandparents deviate from the national norm. In the United States, 37 percent of caregiving grandparents have played that role for five years or more. And keep in mind that roughly three-fourths of caregiving grandparents have already had the job for one year or more.

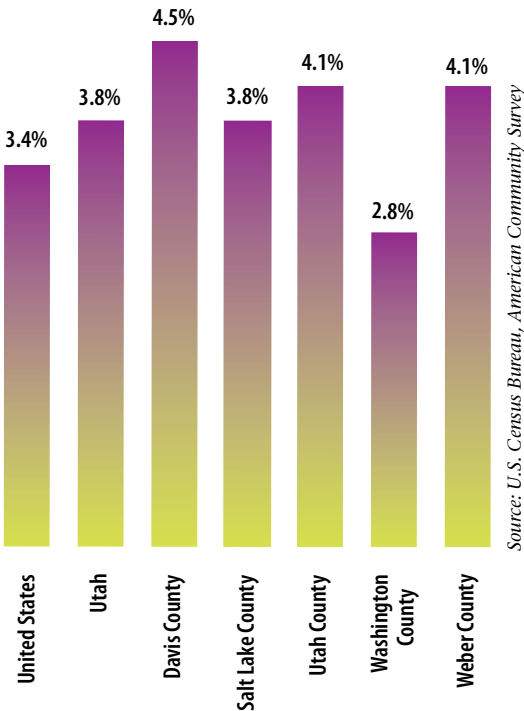
For more information on grandparents as caregivers and other demographic data see: <http://www.census.gov/acs>

2005 Utah Length of Time Coresident Grandparents Responsible for Caregiving



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey

2005 Percentage of Population over 30 Living with Grandchildren



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey

Here’s a scenario you might never have envisioned. You’ve raised your children. You thought you were finished with childrearing. You’re ready for those “golden years.” Then all of a sudden you find yourself in the thick of raising kids again. However, this time, the young ones don’t happen to be your own kids, but your grandchildren.

Because of the death, divorce, drug abuse, mental illness, or the irresponsibility of parents, many grandparents are currently caregivers for their grandchildren. However, it wasn’t until the 2000 Census that data was available to track this phenomenon. And now the American Community Survey provides yearly data for the nation, states, and larger counties that helps us understand the magnitude of this situation.

You may be new to American Community Survey data. This survey is conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau and provides economic and demographic data for years between the decennial censuses. The survey provides a wealth of information for

those looking for current information about their area (see the article on page 20).

In Close Proximity

In 2005, roughly 44,000 Utahns lived with their grandchildren under the age of 18. That’s roughly 3.8 percent of the population over the age of 30—higher than the U.S. average of 3.4 percent. In fact, Utah ranks ninth in a state ranking of the percentage of grandparents who are living with their grandchildren. The South (Mississippi, Texas, Louisiana, Alabama, and Georgia) and the West (Hawaii, California, Utah, and New Mexico) appear to dominate the top ten, which perhaps reflects cultural differences.

Keep in mind that these figures can represent a multitude of situations. For example, grandparents could be the householders with an unmarried or divorced child and their children living in the grandparents’ home. On the other hand, grandparents could be living in their adult child’s

A Pretty Great State

With a high job growth rate and a low unemployment rate, many are making Utah their home.

It comes as no surprise to Utahns that our state is a pretty great place to live. From wonderful skiing to a strong pioneer culture, Utah caters to almost every desire and whim of residents and travelers alike. Perhaps more alluring though, is the state's strong and growing economy. With one of the highest job growth rates in the nation and a very low unemployment rate, it isn't surprising that people here and abroad would seek to make Utah their home.

Indeed, data from a number of sources appears to back up that assertion. The Governor's Office of Planning and Budget publishes population estimates on a yearly basis. These estimates touch on nearly every aspect of population dynamics: births, deaths, and net migration. This net migration data, which shows us the inflow

of people into the state minus the outflow, shows that 2005 had the highest number of net migrants since 1943. This comes on the heels of strong and sustained in-migration throughout the 1990s.

A wholly separate look at migration and immigration comes to us from the American Community Survey (ACS). Data for 2005 shows that roughly 95,000 people in Utah lived elsewhere in the previous year—we must remember this is only a measure of the flow into the state, not a measure of net in-migration. While much is made of international immigrants coming

to Utah, the data shows that nearly 86 percent of those who came to the state were from other U.S. states or territories. The remainder came from a number of international locations, but no single area dominated—Mexico, Latin America minus Mexico, Canada, and Asia accounted for three percent each.

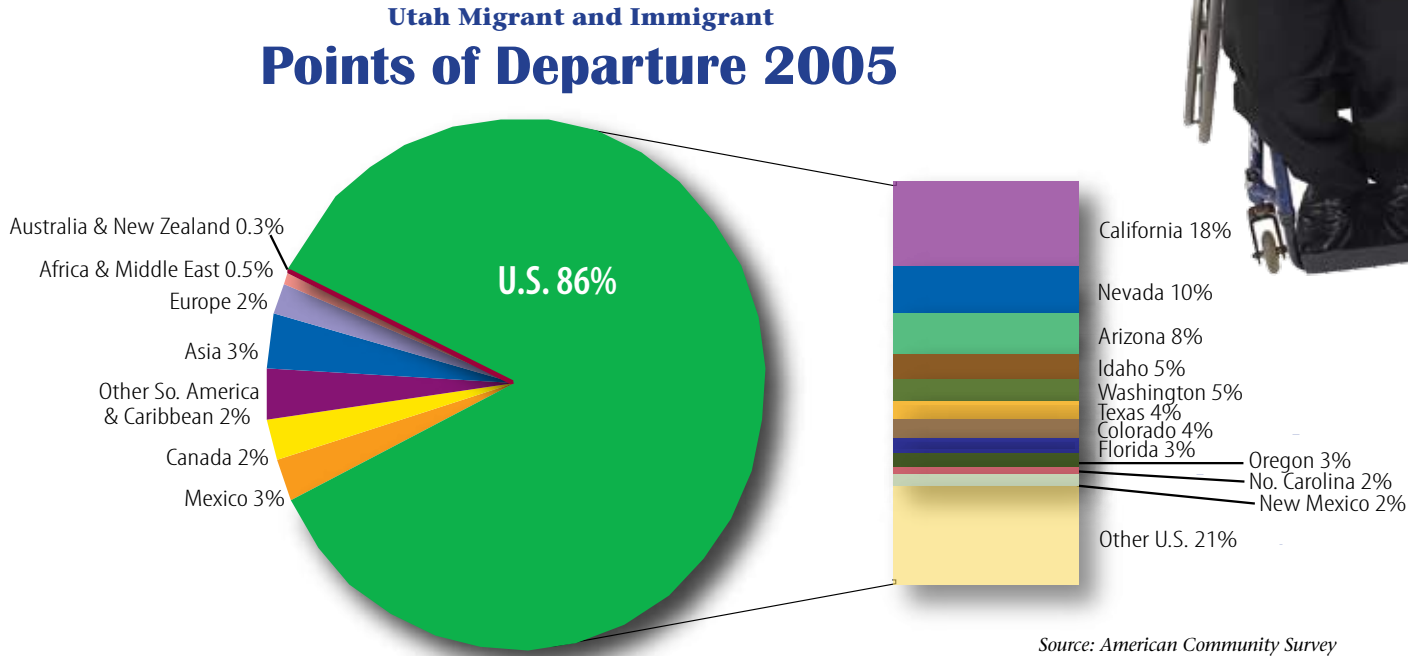
Further examination of the ACS data reveals many interesting characteristics of both groups who have come to Utah. One aspect in which these two groups show a striking difference is in terms of their gender makeup. Domestic migrants split roughly 50-50 percentage-wise between men and women, whereas international immigrants split 60-40 in favor of men. This difference

may suggest that more men are coming from outside the country in search of work or education, leaving their families at home. This difference is perhaps further visible in the age distribution of migrants and immigrants. Roughly 44 percent of domestic migrants are in the 20-to-34 age group. On the other hand, fully 49 percent of all international immigrants are in the 20-to-24 age group. This large concentration also reveals something else—just how hard it is to pick up and move to a completely new country. You have to be fairly young and flexible to make such a transition. Furthermore, college students coming to Utah from afar would also tend to bulk up this age group.

Another comparison that is often made of domestic migrants and international immigrants is that of educational attainment. Here the ACS data shows differences between the two groups. Both are unique in their own way. Fully 94 percent of domestic migrants, ages 25 years and

older, had at least a high school diploma and 35 percent had at least a bachelor's degree—both statistics exceed Utah's overall educational attainment levels. In this regard, domestic migrants are highly educated and are immediately adding to the state's bank of human capital. People from abroad also showed a strong inclination to higher education, with 74 percent of those 25 years and older having at least a high school diploma and 26 percent having at least a bachelor's degree. These slightly lower percentages likely reflect a mixed composition of students seeking higher education and less-educated workers seeking employment opportunities.

Migration and immigration dynamics are a fascinating topic and are an important component of any labor market analysis. Thanks to the ACS we will be able to probe this phenomenon in a timelier manner and with a greater level of detail than ever before.



Source: American Community Survey

Migration and Immigration by Educational Attainment

	High School Diploma or Higher	Bachelor's Degree or Higher
Domestic Migrants	94%	35%
International Immigrants	74%	26%

Migration and Immigration by Gender

	Male	Female
Domestic Migrants	51%	49%
International Immigrants	60%	40%

Migration and Immigration by Age

	15 and below	16-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65 and above
Domestic Migrants	19%	7%	20%	24%	14%	5%	6%	5%
International Immigrants	5%	7%	49%	14%	11%	4%	6%	4%

Source for tables: American Community Survey

Utah's Perpetual Baby Boom

Utah's birthrate was the highest in the nation in 2005

According to the most recent American Community Survey (ACS), Utah's birthrate was the highest in the nation in 2005. Utah has held this position for quite some time, thanks in part to such things as a generally healthy economy, youthful population, and the predominant culture. ACS reports that in 2005 there were approximately 87 births per 1000 women age 15 to 50, which gives Utah a clear lead over number two-ranking Arizona, with a birthrate of 70. Nebraska ranked third with a birth rate of 69, and the average for the nation was 57 (see chart).

The estimated number of Utah births was approximately 56,600, which constitutes roughly 1.3 percent of the total number of births in the United States in 2005. This percentage is striking when compared to the fact that ACS estimates the Utah population in 2005 to hold only 0.8 percent of the nation's population.

Another notable statistic from the survey attempts to measure how many children were born into poverty in 2005. In Utah, about one in every six births was to women whose yearly income was below the poverty level. This is certainly a disturbing rate, but is considerably lower than the national rate of one in four births.

Utah Households
An obvious result of a high overall birthrate is a large average household size. Utah also ranks first in the nation for average household size at 3.07 persons, which is 0.15 higher than number two-ranked California and 0.42 higher than the national average.

The average family size in the nation is an estimated 3.18 persons, while Utah's families average 3.56 persons. According to ACS, a household includes all the people who occupy a housing unit as their usual place of residence and a family is a group

of two or more people who reside together and who are related by birth, marriage, or adoption.

Age and Marital Status
Of the women in Utah who had a child in 2005, about 15 percent of them were unmarried. This is the lowest rate of any state in the nation and well below the national average of 30.6 percent. The largest share of births was to mothers between 20 and 34 years of age (85 percent) while the smallest share was from the 35 to 50 age category (11 percent). Given Utah's status as the youngest state in the

nation with a median age of 28.5 years, it is not surprising to see the majority of births concentrated in the younger age category.

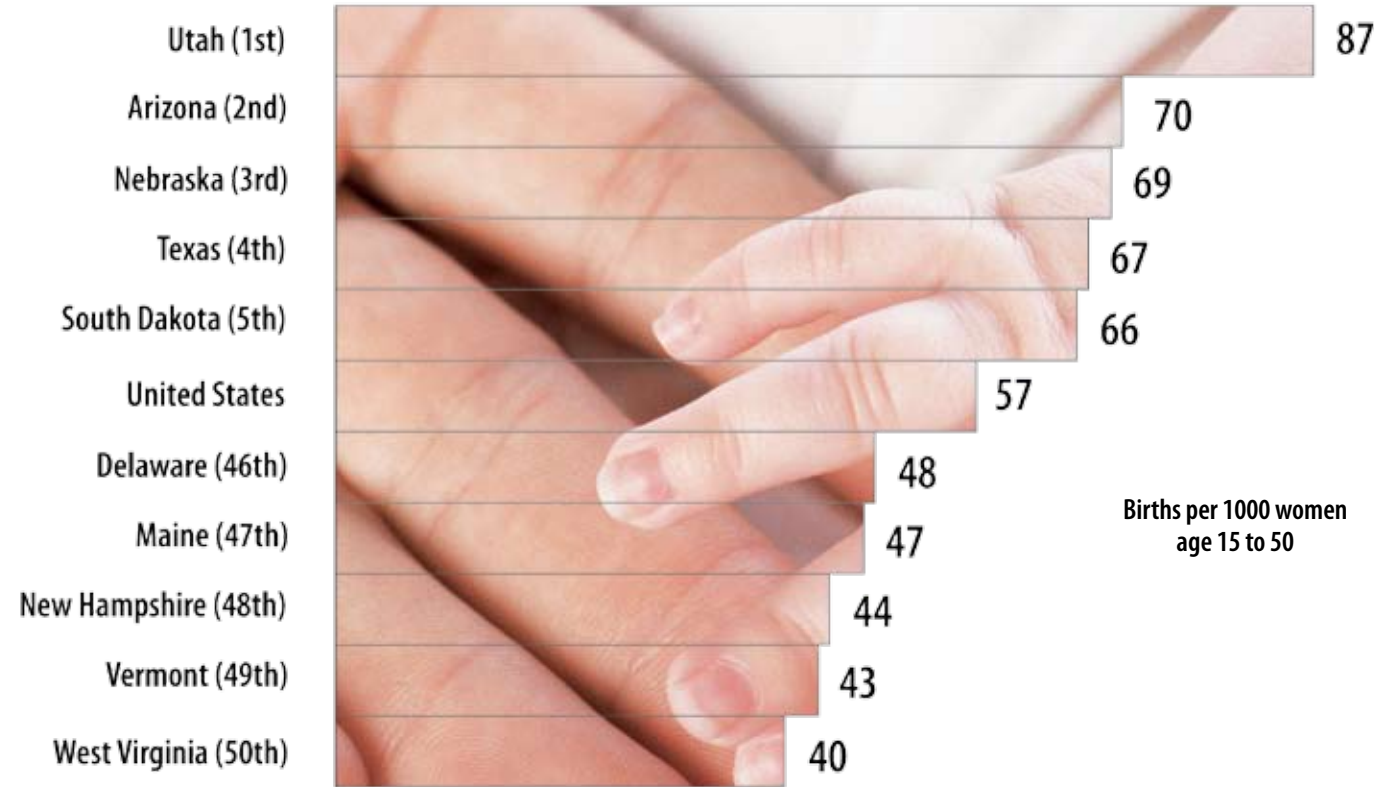
Utah's Hispanic Population
Utah's Hispanic population is also outpacing the nation in birthrate. The national birthrate for Hispanics is estimated at 80 births per 1000 Hispanic women age 15 to 50, which is considerably less than Utah's rate of 109. An estimated 14 percent of Utah births in 2005 were to Hispanic mothers. And like the population of Utah in general, the Hispanic

population is relatively young, with an estimated median age of 25.1 years.

Economic Implications
What does a high birthrate mean for the Utah economy? An increasing population usually brings about an increase in consumption.

Therefore, more births can be an economic stimulus, as long as the economy has the productive capacity to meet the increase in demand. With the availability of resources and a relatively skilled workforce, this has generally been the case for Utah.

Birthrates for Select States and Nation • By Rank



Source: American Community Survey, U. S. Census Bureau

Dynamic Demographics

The American Community Survey (ACS) now collects timely information annually, providing more accurate demographics.



Once every ten years, as part of the census, the federal government collects rather detailed demographic, housing, economic and social characteristics from a huge sample of the U.S. population. This mammoth survey effort requires the participation of about one in six households or individuals, with the hiring and training of a large temporary workforce to gather the information.

Since a census is taken only once every ten years, the so-called long form information becomes outdated within a few years. After the 2000 Census, a new annual survey was begun to obtain up-to-date long form-type information. The American Community Survey (ACS) is now used to collect timely

and accurate information every year, providing a moving picture of demographic and economic change rather than a once-in-a-decade snapshot.

The ACS collects information from a random sample of households in all communities in the country. In any given year, each house address has about one chance in 40 of being selected to participate in the ACS, and no address will be selected more often than once every five years. The ACS is conducted under the same laws as the decennial census, providing the same confidential protections. Under the law, as part of the census, households selected are required to answer the survey.

With testing and development

complete, the ACS was fully implemented in 2005, with a complete national sample of about three million housing unit addresses surveyed. The survey is conducted throughout the year, collecting information from one-twelfth of the selected addresses each month. A new sample is selected each year. This continuous effort enables the census bureau to use experienced, full-time survey collectors.

This fall saw the first publication of annual estimates of demographic, economic, housing, and social characteristics from a complete ACS sample of responses collected during 2005. Currently data is available for Utah counties, cities, and other geographic areas with a population of 65,000 or more (see geographic area chart). By combining sampled households over three- and five-year periods, annual estimates for communities of all sizes will become available by 2010 (see publication chart).

The information collected from the ACS is needed by government at all levels—federal, state, and local to manage and evaluate programs and services, and to comply with requirements stipulated in law. Businesses, other private organizations, and individuals also make use of these community-based statistics for a host of marketing, planning, and service-delivery activities. Information has become a vital link to our economic, social, and community well-being. The American Community Survey is a major contributor of data used to make informed decisions.



See Utah's demographic, social and economic data for areas with populations over 65,000 on the following page.

Type of Data	Population Size of Area	Data for the Previous Year Released in the Summer of:							
		2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010+
Annual estimates	250,000+								
Annual estimates	65,000+								
3-year averages	20,000+								
5-year averages	Census Tract and Block Group*								

Data reflect American Community Survey testing through 2004
*Census tracts are small, relatively permanent statistical subdivisions of a county averaging about 4,000 inhabitants.

Source: American Community Survey

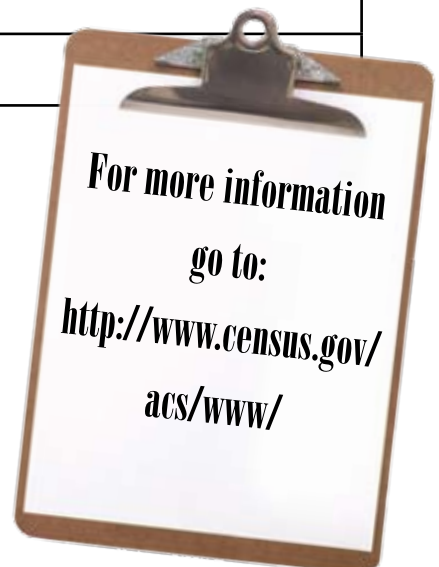
2005 American Community Survey

Demographic, Social, and Economic Data Available for the Following Utah Areas

✓	State Total	
✓	Three Congressional Districts	
✓	Ten School Districts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alpine • Ogden • Davis • Provo • Granite • Salt Lake City • Jordan • Washington • Nebo • Weber
✓	Five Metropolitan Areas*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Logan, Utah-Idaho (Cache County, Utah and Franklin County, Idaho) • Ogden-Clearfield, Utah (Davis, Morgan and Weber Counties) • Provo-Orem, Utah (Juab and Utah Counties) • Salt Lake City, Utah (Salt Lake, Summit and Tooele Counties) • St. George, Utah (Washington County)
✓	Six Counties	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cache • Davis • Salt Lake • Utah • Washington • Weber
✓	Seven Cities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ogden • Orem • Provo • Salt Lake City • Sandy • West Jordan • West Valley City
✓	Combined Area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Salt Lake City-Ogden-Clearfield, Utah (Salt Lake, Tooele, Summit, Davis, Morgan, Weber and Box Elder Counties)
✓	16 Public Use Microdata Areas**	

*There is a defined urbanized area for each of the five Metropolitan Areas.

** The State of Utah is divided into 16 non-overlapping areas with at least 100,000 population.



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Utah Department of Workforce Services



Tech Parks

Around the State

Utah is now the fourth fastest-growing state in the country.

It's no secret that Utah's economy is booming. We are now the fourth-fastest growing state in the country. This growth will not be short-lived: for the next 25 years, the state is projected to have the nation's fifth-highest population growth rate. Thus the question: where will all those people work?

To get ahead of this growth curve, the Governor's Office of Economic Development (GOED) is working to develop a variety of business centers to help us stay competitive. These business parks range from "Sure Sites"—relatively small sites identified in advance as being ready for business relocation—to major technology and research parks covering hundreds of acres.

Building on Our Successes

Utah already has two excellent research parks. The University of Utah Research Park, with three million square feet of office space, and Utah State's Innovation Campus. Each has been a key driver of the state's economy by helping spawn

new technologies and spin out new companies. Research Park has also established Utah as a leading center in health sciences, while Utah State University's Innovation Campus in Logan is home to the Space Dynamics Lab, which has put more hardware in space than any other university program in the world.

New Tech Parks in the Works

GOED is working with industry and the federal government to plan and develop a series of new technology commercialization centers throughout the state.

The West Side Development (WSD) at Hill Air Force Base may be one of the first new technology centers. The WSD will turn the underutilized stretch of Hill Air Force Base along I-15 into a 550-acre technology center focused on three of the state's strategic industry "clusters" — defense, advanced composites, and aerospace. The current plan contemplates a renewable 50-year lease of the land for development by a private company.

The company will oversee construction of all buildings and later, manage and lease the facilities to the base and other defense-related and commercial businesses. Depending on the final design, final build-out of the site could have more than five million square feet of space and provide employment for more than 7,000 people.

Hill officials not only expect to obtain new administrative facilities from the partnership, but to also improve day-to-day interactions with leading-edge technology research, development, and manufacturing companies that will lease facilities in the park.

The WSD will also help commuters. Right now over 40 percent of employees living in Davis County travel out of the county to work. That percentage could decrease significantly once the buildings go up on the west side property, helping ease traffic congestion and providing the chance for much shorter commutes for area residents.

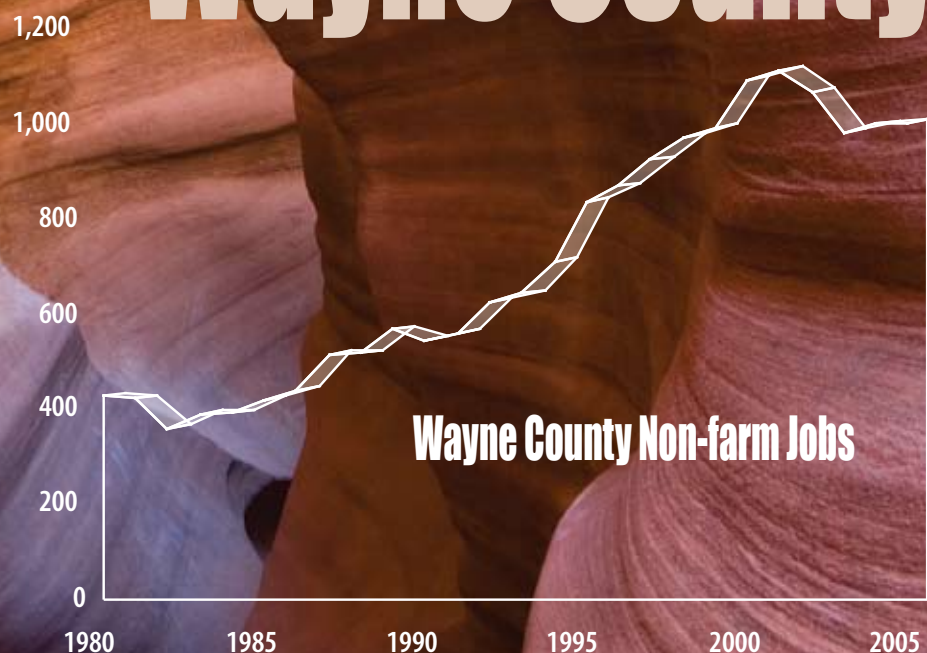
In addition to the WSD, GOED is working with

developers on several other sites, including a life sciences center in Salt Lake Valley.

GOED is also issuing an RFP to gather the best ideas for the highest and best use of another prime site in Salt Lake Valley—the state's lands adjacent to the state penitentiary along Bangerter Highway in Draper. This is an interesting site for a tech center partly because this site is at the junction of I-15 and the only east-west limited-access highway south of 21st south.

Doug Clark, Managing Director of the Grow Utah section in GOED, believes this two-pronged strategy of research and commercialization centers focused on key industry clusters will provide the impetus and focus for Utah's economy well into the future. "The partnerships and initiatives in place are producing excellent results," he says. "By replicating that success at strategically selected sites throughout the state, we believe we can provide sustainable growth and prosperity for one of nation's fastest-growing states for many years to come."

Wayne County



Source: Department of Workforce Services

Until the recent recession, Wayne County's nonfarm employment grew at a fairly steady rate since 1980. The year 2004 marked the first year since 2001 that the county had added employment.

In terms of population, Wayne County is a relatively small county. With roughly 2,500 residents, only three Utah counties are smaller. Moreover, the county has struggled with net out-migration in recent years.

Because of the county's national parks (most importantly Capitol Reef) and scenic beauties, tourism plays an important role in the economy. Almost one-fifth of Wayne County's non-farm employment can be categorized in the leisure/hospitality industry compared to less than 10 percent in Utah as a whole.

In the post 9-11 aftermath and recession, Wayne County lost a substantial number of jobs. Only in the last two years has the county's economy rebounded with a limited amount of job growth. Nevertheless, joblessness has fallen to 3.9 percent in recent months, indicating the labor market is providing sufficient jobs for its residents. ⓘ

For more information about Wayne County, visit: <http://jobs.utah.gov/jsp/wi/utalmis/gotoCounties.do>

- Roughly 97 percent of Wayne County is public lands, including two national parks, two national forests, Utah's only all-American-road (Highway 12) three scenic byways, three scenic backways and numerous historic sites.
- Wayne County is home to the Bicknell International Film Festival "where good things happen to bad movies," and you can watch the world's fastest parade (55 mph).
- Wayne County was created in 1892 from the part of then-Piute County east of the Parker Rim and was named after state legislator Willis E. Robison's son, Wayne.
- Cattle-ranching is an important part of the Wayne County economy. In 2005, 20,000 cattle called Wayne County home (compared to only 2,500 people).

just
the
facts...

September 2006 Unemployment Rates

Changes From Last Year

Utah Unemployment Rate	2.8 %	▼	1.5 points
U.S. Unemployment Rate	4.6 %	▼	0.5 points
Utah Nonfarm Jobs (000s)	1,226.5	▲	5.0 %
U.S. Nonfarm Jobs (000s)	135,842.0	▲	1.3 %

August 2006 Consumer Price Index Rates

U.S. Consumer Price Index	202.9	▲	2.1 %
U.S. Producer Price Index	165.4	▲	2.0 %

Source: Utah Department of Workforce Services

September 2006 Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rates

Beaver	2.3 %
Box Elder	2.6 %
Cache	2.2 %
Carbon	2.8 %
Daggett	3.6 %
Davis	2.7 %
Duchesne	2.8 %
Emery	3.1 %
Garfield	4.9 %
Grand	3.9 %
Iron	2.3 %
Juab	3.6 %
Kane	3.1 %
Millard	2.3 %
Morgan	2.9 %
Piute	2.7 %
Rich	2.0 %
Salt Lake	2.8 %
San Juan	5.3 %
Sanpete	2.9 %
Sevier	2.6 %
Summit	2.5 %
Tooele	2.7 %
Uintah	2.2 %
Utah	2.6 %
Wasatch	2.6 %

Watch for these features in our
Next Issue:

Theme:

A Look Forward and Back

County Highlight:

Wasatch

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